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**State of Vermont  
Vermont Department of Education  
120 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501**

**Memo to:** Principals, Superintendents and Curriculum Directors  
**From:** Casey Murrow, Director; Julie Peterson, Associate Director of Southeast – SVLC;  
Marty Gephart, Assistant Director, Standards and Assessment  
Pat Fitzsimmons, Assistant Director, Standards and Assessment  
Mary Ann Minardo, Assessment Consultant, DOE  
**RE:** Southeast VT Learning Collaborative-VTDOE Regional Network Meeting  
**Date:** September 14, 2009

On Wednesday, September 30, the Southeast SVLC and the Department of Education will be offering the third annual Regional Network Meetings for teachers. Attached is a description of the meetings which will be offered in the content areas of Mathematics, Science, Literacy, Health and Physical Education, and Social Studies/Technology and Preschool/Kindergarten.

This year we will again be using ZOHO as a registration site, which will enable the each participant to receive a confirmation of their registration. By September 25<sup>th</sup> each registrant will receive

- a link for accessing and downloading materials (please print and bring to the meeting),
- information concerning options for lunch, and
- directions to the meeting location,

Unfortunately, the DOE has a limited number of Network Leaders and Department Consultants. We will only be able to accommodate those educators who pre-register. **Registration will end on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.**

By September 25<sup>th</sup>, all principals and superintendents will receive an e-mail listing teachers who have pre-registered for a meeting

If you have questions regarding the meetings, please call Mary Ann Minardo at 828-5410 or e-mail her at [maryann.minardo@state.vt.us](mailto:maryann.minardo@state.vt.us). For registration questions, call Lucille Chicoine 828-5922 or email her at [lucille.chicoine@state.vt.us](mailto:lucille.chicoine@state.vt.us).

If you're making copies for your staff, please notice the underscore on the link. See below.  
[https://creator.zoho.com/doe\\_user/southeast\\_svlc\\_sept-30-2009\\_network\\_meetings/form-perma/Southeast\\_SVLC\\_Sept\\_30\\_2009\\_Network\\_Meetings/](https://creator.zoho.com/doe_user/southeast_svlc_sept-30-2009_network_meetings/form-perma/Southeast_SVLC_Sept_30_2009_Network_Meetings/)

Here is the link for the ZOHO registration: [https://creator.zoho.com/doe\\_user/southeast\\_svlc\\_sept-30-2009\\_network\\_meetings/form-perma/Southeast\\_SVLC\\_Sept\\_30\\_2009\\_Network\\_Meetings/](https://creator.zoho.com/doe_user/southeast_svlc_sept-30-2009_network_meetings/form-perma/Southeast_SVLC_Sept_30_2009_Network_Meetings/)

## Southeast SVLC Professional Development Network Meetings September 30, 2009

If you're making copies for your staff please notice the underscore on the link. See below.

[https://creator.zoho.com/doe\\_user/southeast\\_svlc\\_sept-30-2009\\_network\\_meetings/form-perma/Southeast\\_SVLC\\_Sept\\_30\\_2009\\_Network\\_Meetings/](https://creator.zoho.com/doe_user/southeast_svlc_sept-30-2009_network_meetings/form-perma/Southeast_SVLC_Sept_30_2009_Network_Meetings/)

Here is the link for the Zoho registration:

[https://creator.zoho.com/doe\\_user/southeast\\_svlc\\_sept-30-2009\\_network\\_meetings/form-perma/Southeast\\_SVLC\\_Sept\\_30\\_2009\\_Network\\_Meetings/](https://creator.zoho.com/doe_user/southeast_svlc_sept-30-2009_network_meetings/form-perma/Southeast_SVLC_Sept_30_2009_Network_Meetings/)

**Registration will end on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Content Area	Description	Location
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	<p><b>Goal-setting skills are essential to help students identify, adopt and maintain healthy behaviors</b></p> <p>Goal-setting skills are essential to help students identify, adopt and maintain healthy behaviors. Mastery of these skills is critical for success in all aspects of 21<sup>st</sup> century life. Schools or districts are encouraged to bring K-12 teacher teams to increase coordination of skill development. During this workshop for health and physical educators, participants will collaborate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Recognize commonalities among the HE and PE GE's for goal-setting.</li> <li>b) Identify or develop instructional strategies for goal-setting.</li> <li>c) Identify or develop assessments for goal-setting.</li> <li>d) Draft a K-12 curriculum map for goal-setting that increases in cognitive complexity.</li> </ul> <p>Participants are asked to bring goal-setting lessons and assessment resources.</p>	<b>K-12:</b> Bellows Falls UHS, Bellows Falls
<b>Literacy</b>	<p><b>The Literacy Network Meetings for Fall 2009 will be "Reading/Writing Connections."</b> Embedded in the content at all the grade levels will be student work, <i>Grade Expectations</i>, interactive instructional techniques, and "take-home" resources.</p> <p><b>"Reading/Writing Connections across the Day" (grades K-3 and 4-6 meetings)</b> will be structured as a "typical" elementary school day, with reading and writing instruction and strategies embedded throughout. Beginning with the morning meeting, math and science blocks, the day will include materials to use writing to enhance understanding of content. The afternoon will feature a model literacy block with social studies and technology skills as part of the content and instruction.</p> <p><b>"Reading/Writing Connections: Deep Reading and Elaboration" (MS-HS meetings)</b> will focus on the question, "How can we get students to read critically in print and online and then apply elaboration techniques in their writing?" The content of the meeting will be based on a Web quest of a well-known short story in which students embark on an archaeological search to uncover evidence to support or disprove the author's message. Teachers will practice strategies to teach students to do an effective web search and to evaluate the content of the websites.</p>	<b>K-3, 4-6, 7-8 &amp; 9-12:</b> Brattleboro UHS, Brattleboro

Content Area	Description	Location
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p><b>Grades K-2, 3-5</b> Math Class....a time to read, speak, write and learn. This network meeting will provide opportunities to discover, share and practice communication skills. Looking at the state NECAP data will provide justification for what is known to be best practice in mathematics. There will also be a problem solving component to the meetings.</p> <p><b>Grades 6-12</b> The role of effective communication as a vital component of quality mathematics instruction will be the focus of the 7-12 Mathematics Network Meeting. Strategies that can be used to enhance student learning as well as connections to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning will be discussed. Research that informs classroom practice will serve as the foundation for these conversations. This is also an opportunity to network with colleagues throughout your region. Join us as we explore new ways to engage students. It is strongly recommended to bring a laptop.</p>	<p><b>K-2 &amp; 3-5:</b> Bellows Falls UHS, Bellows Falls</p> <p><b>6-8 &amp; 9-12:</b> Bellows Falls UHS, Bellows Falls</p>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<p><b>Putting the “Kinder” Back into Kindergarten</b> In our eagerness to ensure that children are ready for first grade, meet the grade expectations, and make steady strides towards achieving “proficient” status on later state assessments, we have moved away from what we know about the five-year-olds who enter our kindergarten classes every fall. This workshop will help participants understand why it is necessary for kindergarten curricula and practices to focus on the unique characteristics of five-year-olds and how they learn, and to put the “kinder” back into kindergarten. In this workshop, participants will hear about one school district that is working to transform its kindergarten classes into more student centered and developmentally appropriate places of learning. We will discuss developmentally appropriate practices for kindergarten, and explore how to address grade expectations and ensure accountability using these practices.</p> <p><b>Audience:</b> Kindergarten teachers and assistant teachers Administrators of PK-6 schools</p>	<b>K:</b> Brattleboro UHS, Brattleboro
<b>Science</b>	<p><b>The fall 2009 Science Network Meetings will focus on the content topics of Weather and Climate and Communication in Science.</b> The Fall 2009 Science Network Meetings will focus on Communication in Science through the content topics of Weather and Climate. <b>The K-4 meeting</b> will focus on Weather concepts as described in the GE’s, while the <b>5 –12 meetings</b> will address Climate and Climate Change.</p> <p>Students need to know how to learn about science on their own to be life-long learners—to be able to read, understand, discuss and critique real-world issues, and then share their thoughts through writing. To support these skills we will address a process of science communication, to provide students with skills for reaching informed and thoughtful decisions.</p> <p><b>Elementary Level Meetings will focus on weather content and provide teachers with different resources to implement in the classroom. Elementary teachers will be going outside so dress accordingly.</b> Middle Level meetings will address a variety of inquiry classroom activities that supports Climate Change content. High School meetings will emphasize useful methods for addressing controversial issues in all content areas of high school science curriculum.</p> <p>Students need to know how to learn about science on their own to be life-long learners—to be able to read, understand, discuss and critique real-world issues, and then share their thoughts through writing. To support these skills we will address a process of science communication, to provide students with skills for reaching informed and thoughtful decisions.</p>	<b>K-4, 5-8 &amp; 9-12:</b> Bellows Falls UHS, Bellows Falls

Content Area	Description	Location
<b>Social Studies/ Technology</b>	<p><b>Connecting Your Classroom to the World</b>  <b>Video Conferencing to support virtual field trips and collaborations in the social studies classroom</b>  The Learning Network of VT (LNV) is a school-based video-conferencing system. The LNV supports school to school collaborations, virtual field trips, distance learning opportunities, and access to meetings/trainings for staff members. The LNV upgrade of August 2009 brings increased capacity and stability of the video conferencing network for participating schools – even more reason to use this technology to connect your classroom to the world!</p> <p>Through the LNV, VT schools can access high quality prepaid content from the Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration content dollar bank (<a href="http://www.cilc.org">www.cilc.org</a>). Are you a history teacher? Come learn how your students can visit the American Labor Museum, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Are you a geography teacher? Take your students to put art on the map with the Cincinnati Art Museum or explore early cartography with the Mariner's Museum. Through CILC, your students can also talk to NASA scientists, explore Spanish Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art, learn about the importance of women in the west at the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame, or participate in a drumming program. In addition to virtual fieldtrips, educators will learn how to join or create collaborations with other classrooms that will extend their students' learning experiences around the nation and world.</p> <p>This workshop will focus on social studies across the K-12 spectrum, but <b>teachers of all content areas will greatly benefit from attending</b>. Educators in schools with LNV terminals are especially encouraged. See <a href="http://www.learn.vermont.gov">www.learn.vermont.gov</a> for more information</p>	<b>K–12:</b> Brattleboro UHS, Brattleboro